

Deben Rural District Council.

Annual Report
OF THE
Medical Officer of Health
FOR THE YEAR
1973



K.M. HARDING

M.D., D.P.H., A.K.C., M.F.C.M.



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To the Chairman and Councillors,
Deben Rural District Council,
Mr. Chairman, Ladies and Gentlemen,

I have the honour to present the last Annual Report of the Medical Officer of Health for this Rural District.

It is not a complete record because vital statistics relating to births, deaths and causes of death will not be available until some time after this Council ceases to exist on 31st March, 1974. However it has been possible to compile other details, usually given in my Annual Report, from our local records.

One of the most important advances in the field of public health during the past years has been the provision of a pure and wholesome water supply throughout most of the District. In addition most of the larger villages now have sewage schemes and the comforts of main drainage.

Housing is another Council activity closely connected with the state of public health in a community. Following the war years during which the building of new houses was at a standstill and repairs to existing dwellings difficult to undertake, it was inevitable that many houses fell into a state of serious disrepair. Some of these houses could not be repaired at reasonable cost and many of the occupiers were living in conditions of extreme discomfort and privation. It was a tremendous task to carry out a detailed inspection of each house and to assess its condition and future, but although a small number of houses still await action, the majority of unfit houses have been dealt with and in many cases the occupants have been rehoused. However the housing shortage is still a very great problem and young couples, newly married or wishing to wed, have great difficulty in finding anywhere to live. This is despite the fact that the Council has built many houses as well as bungalows for elderly people.

During the past twenty years two diseases have emerged as killers, responsible for an ever increasing number of deaths. These are Coronary heart disease, and Cancer of the lung. Experts tell us that the stress of modern living, too rich a diet and lack of exercise are responsible for this form of heart disease and there is now no doubt that heavy cigarette smoking causes many cases of lung cancer.

The most notable achievement in the control of infectious diseases in recent years has been the conquest of Poliomyelitis. Only a few years ago it posed a constant threat. One never knew when or where it would strike and when it did so its victims were usually the younger members of society. They were often left with a serious disability; some did not recover at all. Now as the result of poliomyelitis vaccination the disease has virtually disappeared.

These are just a few of the thoughts that come to mind when reviewing our activities and achievements during the past years.

The time has now come to hand on the torch to our successors, the Suffolk Coastal District Council and its department of Environmental Health. In doing so we give them our best wishes for the future in the assurance that they will carry on the traditions which we have tried to establish, and in the hope that their forthcoming achievements will be many.

It now only remains for me to express my appreciation to the Councillors and in particular to Mr. Forrest, Chairman of the Health Committee, for their support and encouragement during the time that I have worked at Deben.

I should also like to thank most warmly all the officers and members of the staff for their help and co-operation, and particularly the staff of the Public Health department for their loyalty, assistance and enthusiasm in the performance of their many duties during my term of office.

I am,
Yours faithfully,

K.M. HARDING,

Medical Officer of Health.

DEBEN RURAL DISTRICT COUNCIL

PUBLIC HEALTH OFFICERS

Medical Officer of Health

K.M. HARDING, M.D., D.P.H.,
A.K.C., M.F.C.M.

Chief Public Health Inspector

A.F. WARRANDER, F.A.P.H.I.,
M.I.P.H.E., M.R.S.H.

Additional Public Health Inspectors

D.P. HALL, M.A.P.H.I. (Deputy C.P.H.I.)

F.E. ELLISTON, M.A.P.H.I.

A.H. FISHER, M.A.P.H.I.

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STATISTICS

GENERAL

Population (Registrar General's Estimate for mid. 1973)	38,730
Area of District in acres	100,300
Density of population - persons per acre	0.354
Number of inhabited houses 31.12.73	12,125
Average number of persons per house	3.17
Rateable Value of District as at 31.12 73	23,371,259
Estimated product of Penny Rate 1973/74	334,600

POPULATION

Registrar General's mid year estimates over 10 years:

1964	1965	1966	1967	1968	1969	1970	1971	1972	1973
35690	35520	36360	37700	37760	37960	37740	37410	38270	38730

MID-YEAR POPULATION 1973.

(as estimated by Registrar-General)

MUNICIPAL BOROUGHES
& URBAN DISTRICTS

* Aldeburgh	M.B.	2,750
Beccles	M.B.	8,170
Bungay	U.D.	4,120
Eye	M.B.	1,680
* Felixstowe	U.D.	19,460
Halesworth	U.D.	3,530
* Leiston	U.D.	4,920
Lowestoft	M.B.	53,260
* Saxmundham	U.D.	1,820
Southwold	M.B.	1,960
Stowmarket	U.D.	9,020
* Woodbridge	U.D.	<u>7,770</u>

118,460

RURAL DISTRICTS

* Blyth	17,630
* Deben	38,730
Gipping	24,760
Hartismere	15,890
Lothingland	24,060
Samford	21,430
Wainford	<u>7,170</u>

149,670

268,130

* Population for Suffolk Coastal District Council: 93,080

NOTIFIABLE DISEASE

Monthly notification of Notifiable Disease

Disease	Jan	Feb	Mar	Apr	May	Jun	Jul	Aug	Sep	Oct	Nov	Dec	Total
Measles	3	26	8	43	25	3	-	18	-	1	12	22	161
Meningitis	1	-	-	-	-	-	1	-	-	-	-	-	2
Scarlet Fever	-	-	-	-	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	1
Paratyphoid Fever	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	1	-	-	-	1
Totals:	4	26	8	43	26	3	1	18	1	1	12	22	165

Age Distribution

Disease	0 -	1 -	3 -	5 -	10 -	15 -	25 & Over	Unknown	Total
Measles	2	14	22	105	9	3	-	6	161
Meningitis	-	2	-	-	-	-	-	-	2
Scarlet Fever	-	-	-	1	-	-	-	-	1
Paratyphoid Fever	-	-	-	-	-	-	1	-	1
Totals:	2	16	22	106	9	3	1	6	165

TUBERCULOSIS

	<u>Respiratory</u>		<u>Non-Respiratory</u>		<u>Total</u>
	M.	F.	M.	F.	
Number on Register at 1st January, 1973	16	11	3	2	32
Number notified during the year	-	-	-	1	1
Number restored to register after removal in a previous period	-	-	-	-	-
Number other than by notification	1	-	-	-	1
Number removed from Register	2	-	-	2	4
Number remaining on 31st December, 1973	15	11	3	1	30

ANNUAL VACCINATION AND IMMUNISATION FIGURES

	<u>Primary Courses</u>	<u>Boosters</u>
Diphtheria/Tetanus/Pertussia	306	99
Diphtheria/Tetanus	9	282
Tetanus	48	219
Poliomyelitis Sabin	296	563
Measles	322	-
Rubella	128	-

NATIONAL ASSISTANCE ACT, 1948, SECTION 47

NATIONAL ASSISTANCE (AMENDMENT) ACT, 1951

During the year one elderly lady residing in the District and in need of care and attention within the provisions of the above Acts, was removed to appropriate institutional accommodation.

HOUSING

Statistics

Private dwellings completed during 1973	212
Number of new houses completed by L.N. during the year	48
Total of post war Council Houses completed to 31.12.73	1,410
Number of properties improved by Improvement Grants: Discretionary:	83
Standard:	46

Housing Repairs

Number of dwelling houses rendered fit as a result of informal action	4
Number of dwelling houses rendered fit by undertakings (Section 16)	15

Demolition

Number of demolition orders secured	1
Number of dwellings demolished by informal action	Nil
Number demolished under demolition orders	7

Closing Orders etc.

Number of dwellings in respect of which or part of which closing orders were made	3
Undertakings accepted not to re-let unfit houses	4

Rehousing

Number of families rehoused from unfit houses	6
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Inspections

Number of houses inspected	1,170
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Caravans

Number of sites licensed (Individual, Residential, Holiday)	20
Number of inspections	128
Number of caravans on sites:	
(a) for Holiday use	275
(b) for Residential use	295

Disinfection etc.

Number of premises disinfected	2
Number of premises disinfested	4

WATER SUPPLY

<u>Mains supplies</u>	<u>Satisfactory</u>	<u>Unsatisfactory</u>
Total samples taken, including routine sampling by Ipswich Corporation Water Undertaking	462	4
<u>Private supplies</u>		
Wells:	38	38
Bores:	51	4
<u>Well Water Cyanosis</u>		
Nitrate	7	6
Bacteriological	13	1

RIVER WATER SAMPLES

Number of samples taken: 81 - all satisfactory. Details as follows:

River Alde - Iken	5
River Deben - Bardsey	8
River Deben - Melton	7
River Deben - Martlesham Creek	4
River Deben - Ramsholt	8
River Deben - Ufford	10
River Deben - Waldringfield	8
River Deben - Wickham Market	8
River Orwell - Nacton	5
River Ore - Butley	8
River Ore - Orford	10

MEAT INSPECTION

Carcase and Offal inspected and condemned in whole or in part

	Cattle excluding cows	Cows	Calves	Sheep and Lambs	Pigs
Number Killed	87	-	-	21	124
Number inspected	87	-	-	21	124
Whole carcasses condemned:					
Tuberculosis	-	-	-	-	-
Other causes	-	-	-	-	-
Carcases of which some part or organ was condemned:					
Tuberculosis	-	-	-	-	-
Other causes	19	-	-	-	24

Total inspections for the year: 232

POULTRY INSPECTION

9,986 birds inspected - 171 rejected

OYSTERS

There is one Oysterage in the District situated at Butley Creek.
132 Oysters were examined and found to be Grade I Clean.
24 Mussels were examined and found to be Grade I Clean.

FOOD SURRENDERED OR CONDEMNED

	Cwts.	lbs.
Slaughterhouse (carcase meat and offal)	2	11
Retail shops (carcase meat)		10
Frozen foods due to cabinet breakdown	3	30
Other foods		15
Total:	5	66

THE OFFICES, SHOPS AND RAILWAY PREMISES ACT, 1963

TABLE A

Registration and General Inspections

	Number of premises registered during the year	Total number of registered premises at end of year	Number of registered premises receiving a general inspection during the year
Offices	2	31	18
Retail Shops	7	52	38
Wholesale Shops, Warehouses	-	2	2
Catering Establishments open to the Public, Canteens	1	17	10
Fuel Storage Depots	-	-	-
Totals:	10	102	68

TABLE B

Number of visits of all kinds by Inspectors to registered premises 70

TABLE C

Analysis of persons employed in registered premises by workplace

Class of Workplace	Number of persons employed
Offices	558
Retail Shops	151
Wholesale Departments, Warehouses	6
Catering Establishments open to the Public	115
Canteens	14
Fuel Storage Depots	-
Total:	844
Total Males	549
Total Females	295

TABLE F

Inspectors

Number of inspectors appointed under Section 52 (1) or (5) of the Act 4

Number of other staff employed for most of their time on work in connection with the Act

Nil

FACTORIES ACT, 1961

Part 1 of the Act

1. Inspections for the purpose of provisions as to health (including inspections made by Public Health Inspectors)

Premises	No. on Register	Number of		Occupiers prosecuted
		Inspections	Notices	
Factories in which Section 7 is enforced by the Local Authority	98	29	3	-
Other premises in which Section 7 is enforced by the Local Authority (excluding outworkers premises)	41	24	4	-
Totals:	139	53	7	-

2. Cases in which defects were found

Particulars	Number of cases in which defects were found				Number of cases in which pros- ecutions were instituted
	Found	Remedied	Referred		
			to H.M. Inspector	by H.M. Inspector	
Want of cleanliness (s.1.)	3	3	-	-	-
Sanitary Conveniences (s.7.)					
(a) Insufficient	4	4	-	-	-
(b) Defective Lighting	-	-	-	-	-
(c) Cleanliness	-	-	-	-	-
Other offences against the Act (not including offences relating to out-work)	-	-	-	-	-
Totals:	7	7	-	-	-

FACTORIES ACT, 1961 (Continued)

Part VIII of the Act

OUTWORK

(Sections 133 and 134)

Nature of Work	Nature of outworkers in August last notified by Section 133 (1) (c)	Section 133		Section 134		
		No. of prosecutions for failure to supply lists	No. of cases of default in sending lists to the Council	No. of instances of work in unwholesome premises	Notices served	Prosecutions
Wearing Apparel)	Making etc.	1	-	-	-	-
	) Clean-					
	) ing	-	-	-	-	-
	) and					
	) Washing					
Other Work		-	-	-	-	-
	Totals:	1	-	-	-	-

RODENT CONTROL

	Type of Property	
	Non-Agricultural	Agricultural
Total number of properties (including nearby premises) inspected following notification	1,524	102
Number infested by (i) Rats	1,239	96
(ii) Mice	197	3
Total number of properties inspected for rats and/or mice for reasons other than notification	305	71
Number infested by (i) Rats	126	54
(ii) Mice	193	3

Summary of visits made by Public Health Inspectors

	<u>1973</u>	<u>1972</u>
Infectious Disease - - - - -	77	92
Drainage - - - - -	489	372
Houses inspected - - - - -	818	795
Revisits and miscellaneous visits other than inspections - - - -	272	495
Housing - General survey - - - - -	558	1,656
Food premises - - - - -	171	162
Food Hygiene (Mobile Shops & Delivery Vehicles) - - - - -	17	35
Food Inspection and Sampling - - - - -	61	62
Meat and Poultry Inspection - - - - -	105	185
Water Supply - - - - -	388	325
Refuse Collection and Disposal - - - - -	598	708
Nuisances and Complaints - - - - -	340	174
Offices, Shops and Railway Premises Act - - - - -	138	92
Factories Act (including outworkers) - - - - -	29	60
Factories Act - Building Sites - - - - -	24	42
Caravan Sites - - - - -	128	149
Prevention of Damage by Pests Act - - - - -	41	37
Petroleum Spirit Regulations - - - - -	51	77
Noise Abatement - - - - -	32	31
Animal Boarding Establishments - - - - -	11	22
Vermineous Premises - - - - -	19	8
Agriculture, Health, Safety and Welfare Provisions - - - - -	1	10
Clean Air Act - - - - -	56	19
Civic Amenities Act - - - - -	128	62
Pet Animals Act - - - - -	-	2
Scrap Metal Dealers Act - - - - -	-	11
	<u>4,552</u>	<u>5,683</u>

